been used to spell out arguments pro and con. Tons of breath have been utilized in attempts to convince listeners who would not be convinced. The continental American knew little of the Philippines and cared less. The insular American had a ready and ingenious solution of the Philippine problem all his own with which no other insular American agreed. The Filipino clamored for independence, thinking it the right thing to do, not knowing what independence meant. All wasted effort. Not until natural forces intervened was Philippine independence granted 5 American labor to keep out cheap Filipino labor, American farmers to keep out competing Philippine sugar and coconut oil. Not until then was the Philippine problem solved by the passage of the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Law and its successor, the Tydings-McDuffie Law—to the complete satisfaction of no one. Paradoxically, it was America that declared its independence from the Philippines and not the Philippines that obtained their independence.

Philippine independence had its beginnings in Chief Lapu Lapu's aggressive fight against Magellan. It had its outcroppings in minor revolts against foreign control. It received inspiration from Del Pilar, Rizal, Bonifacio, and Aguinaldo. Formally the latter proclaimed independence at Cavite on June 12,1898. It was a patriotic but inconclusive gesture.

The Philippine Assembly was organized and provided a fit forum for the expression of public opinion. At the close of its initial work and after it had demonstrated its willingness to

cooperate with the American Government, Speaker Sergio Osmena arose to deliver an address in which he said:

Allow me, gentlemen of the House, following the dictates of my conscience as a delegate, as a representative of the country, under my responsibility as Speaker of this House, to declare solemnly as I do now before God and before the world, that we believe that our people aspire for their independence, that our people consider themselves capable of leading an orderly life, efficient for themselves and for others, in the concert of free and